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## NIXON SEEN MORE RESPONSIVE TO MIDEAST SUMMIT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, (AP).—The United States National Security Council met yesterday to discuss the situation in the Middle East.

The primary objective of the meeting was that NSC members "get educated" in what one expert described as "probably the most complex issue of the century."

Administration experts acknowledged that there is not too much time for such education and that the Nixon administration must decide shortly whether it wants to expect moral pressure on the Arabs and Israelis to bring peace to the Middle East.

UN Secretary General U Thant mentioned the need for such moral pressure in a January 28 news conference.

By doing so he sided, in effect, with the Soviet Union and with France, both favouring joint action in the Middle East by the big four, which would include Britain as well as France, the United States and the Soviet Union.

The administration of former President Lyndon B. Johnson was cool to the proposal, first made by France January 16.

Since then, however, certain signs indicate a change in Washington's thinking and a recognition that the four countries must play a greater role in the search for peace—and that they must do so jointly.

Nixon himself, at his news conference January 27 stressed the need for "new initiatives" and a new leadership on the part of the United States in order to cool off the situation in the Mideast. He called the situation a "powder keg, very explosive, it needs to be defused."

Since Nixon's inauguration American officials have hinted that the new president is free to depart from the Johnson policy line in the Middle East. And there were unconfirmed—but undeniable—reports that the new administration has so informed the government of Egypt.

The first tangible result of Saturday's NSC meeting is expected to be a reply to France to be dispatched next week, officials said.

The reply, they said, will be positive, but will suggest that instead of the French-proposed big four meeting at UN headquarters in New York, a joint formula for the Middle East should be worked out in bilateral contacts.

## Thant, Stewart discuss French Mideast proposal

LONDON, Feb. 2, (JAP). UN Secretary General U Thant and British Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart Saturday discussed France's proposal for a four-power summit on the Middle East crisis.

Britain has already accepted the French formula for such a meeting in New York with the heads of UN delegations representing the United States, Soviet Union, Britain and France.

A foreign office spokesman said Thant and Stewart held a working luncheon at Stewart's Dorneywood country home Lord Caradon, Britain's permanent representative at the United Nations attended.

"They reviewed all major world questions in which the United Nations is concerned, particularly the Middle East," the spokesman said.

Informed sources said the recent public execution of Israeli spies in Iraq was discussed although the talks concentrated on the French summit proposals and Soviet proposals for steps leading to peace in the Middle East.

U Thant left London by air Saturday night for Addis Ababa to attend ceremonies marking the 10th anniversary of the Economic Commission for Africa. He declined to comment on his visit to London.

## Arabs to seek more economic ties with France

BEIRUT, Feb. 2, (DPA).—The Arab-Israeli boycott conference ended 12 days of deliberation yesterday with a call on Arab nations and trade organisations to boost economic cooperation with France.

In a communiqué issued at the end of the conference in Doha, capital of the Emirate Qatar on the Persian Gulf, French President Charles de Gaulle was assured of "the gratitude of all Arabs for his political attitude in the Middle East conflict."

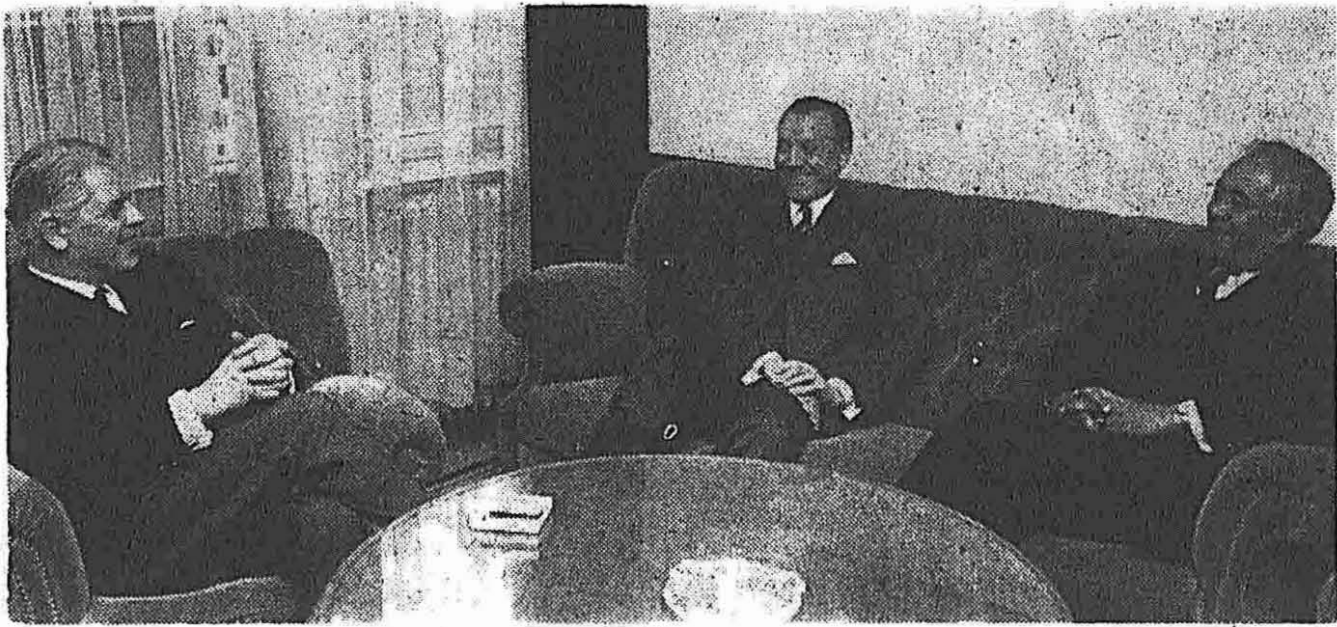
The conference, grouping all Arab states except Tunisia plus the British-occupied Emirates and Sheikdoms on the Gulf, was secret and no details of the decisions taken were announced.

It was learned, however, that all French products are to be granted the same import and tariff advantages now enjoyed by Arab League goods exchanges.

A number of international firms was added to the boycott blacklist, while several others were stuck off the list after proving they had severed relations with Israeli firms.

The decisions will now be conveyed to the Arab governments for ratification.

GARDEZ, Feb. 2, (Bakhtar).—Pakhtia governor and president of the Pakhtia Development Authority, Gen. Mohammad Isa, laid the foundation stone of a hospital in Gorboz alakadari of Khost woleswali yesterday. The hospital will serve the local residents as well as the Pashtoonistans.



Deputy Minister of Information and Culture, Mohammad Khalil Roshan talks with the Deputy Head of the Press and Information Office of the Federal Government and the former First Secretary of the FRG Embassy in Kabul, Dr. Hoff, on the former's visit to West Germany.

## Ayub offers to talk with opponents

RAWALPINDI, Feb. 2, (AFP).—President Ayub Khan said here last night that he would shortly be inviting representatives of "responsible" political parties to discuss demands for constitutional changes.

In the nationwide broadcast he traditionally makes on the first of the month, he said he was always ready to welcome any sensible proposal for changes in the constitution, in the light of public opinion.

The president's announcement comes in the wake of unprecedentedly violent countrywide demonstrations against the government, demanding the democratisation of the constitution and civil liberties.

Referring to the eight-point demand of the combined eight-party opposition, he said various aspects of the demand would have to be studied and there was a need for an exchange of views with representatives of "responsible" political parties.

The eight-party opposition has

called for federal parliamentary government and direct elections based on adult suffrage. At present, the President and the assemblies are elected by an electoral college which has now been increased to a membership of 120,000.

The president appeared to indicate former foreign minister Bhutto's left wing People's Party would be excluded from the talks.

In the broadcast—which was recorded in advance—President Ayub said the constitution was not unchangeable.

He would not hesitate to accept decisions that were the outcome of mutual discussions on proposals which he specified should be "conceived in the larger interest of the people."

President Ayub said he and the ruling Muslim League party were ready to discuss opposition proposals for sweeping constitutional changes.

## Head of W. German affiliation team receives medal

KABUL, Feb. 2, (Bakhtar).—Kabul University Rector Prof. Abdullah Wahedi yesterday presented Dr. Herbert Jaeger, instructor at the college of science and head of the FRG affiliation team, Education Medal III issued by His Majesty the King.

The presentation took place at a ceremony in Kabul Hotel yesterday noon which was attended by deans of Kabul University colleges, ambassadors and members of the FRG embassy in Kabul.

Dr. Wahedi praised the services of the FRG scholars who have been teaching at the College of Science since 1961 when the affiliation programme between Kabul University and universities in the Federal Republic of Germany began.

Ambassador Gerhard Moltmann expressed the hope that cultural relations and scientific cooperation between the two nations will further expand.

Dr. Jaeger came to the College of Science in 1964 as a chemistry instructor and assistant to the head of the West German affiliation team.

In 1967 he came for second term of service in the college and as affiliation team head.

## Home briefs

KABUL, Feb. 2, (Bakhtar).—Negotiations have started between Commerce Ministry and a Bulgarian delegation on conclusion of a trade protocol between the two nations for 1969.

TALUQAN, Feb. 2, (Bakhtar).—The Zargari bridge on the Taluqan-Faizabad road has been repaired by the Takhar Provincial Department of Public Works. The bridge was destroyed by recent snow and rain falls which caused floodings.

## Military readiness doesn't bar political means: Nasser

CAIRO, Feb. 2, (AP).—President Gamal Abdel Nasser told Palestinians Saturday that political tactics—such as are going on among the United Nations peacemaking resolution—are "only one maneuver among several in the complicated battle for the rights of our people and the recovery of the lost lands."

Nasser continued: "The preparation to take back our lost lands by force does not impede political means if there is some chance or way out."

"The danger is in allowing these political methods to impede our military preparation."

"There is one truth which must be very clear throughout the Middle East. That is that these lost lands must be returned. Every inch of them must be given back."

Nasser said the Palestinian cause is one involving the whole Arab people. "Thus the participation of the rest of the Arab people in this clash between Arab nationalism and racial Zionism is not merely sympathy for the Palestinian people but rather a defence of the Arab lands," he said.

Nasser was addressing the opening session in Cairo of the Palestinian National Council, formed mainly of guerrillas.

He praised the anti-Israeli commando movements and pledged Egypt's unqualified support for them.

Rear Admiral Leslie J. O'Brien, who has spent the past year on this problem, said "I would like to think" that the many steps taken so far and under way will assure against a repetition.

Secretary of Defence Melvin R. Laird has ordered a special inquiry on the Pueblo matter, O'Brien acknowledged this could come up with some new aspects.

O'Brien, special assistant to the U.S. chief of naval operations for Pueblo matters, listed in an interview the "many changes put into effect," some of them shortly after the Pueblo was seized by the North

## U.S. intelligence ships get safeguards

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, (AP).—A key U.S. admiral said Saturday future Pueblo-type incidents should be prevented by a variety of measures the navy has taken, including increased protection for its intelligence ships, more potent weapons and destruction devices.

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O'Brien, special assistant to the U.S. chief of naval operations for Pueblo matters, listed in an interview the "many changes put into effect," some of them shortly after the Pueblo was seized by the North

Korean navy on January 1968. Among others, these included: Rapid, fail-safe destruction and scuttling systems.

The two-star admiral said these devices, designed to "selectively" destroy intelligence equipment and materials or to sink the ship, can be triggered by "very few people."

Capt. Lloyd M. Bucher, skipper of the Pueblo, has told a navy court of inquiry in California that his ship had only axes and sledgehammers to destroy the sensitive intelligence-gathering equipment and that the navy several times had turned down his request for improved gear.

Navy officials have said the Pueblo was so built that it could not be scuttled quickly by flooding her with sea water.

Some of the U.S. intelligence ships now afloat could be scuttled in a matter of minutes with the new equipment, O'Brien said.

## Rhodesia reopens contact with London on independence issue

SALISBURY, Feb. 2, (AFP).—The Rhodesian government has reestablished contact with the British government on the independence issue.

A letter was sent to Whitehall the British residual mission in Salisbury on Thursday, but official circles here are maintaining the strictest silence about its contents.

The foreign office in London has denied that any new constitutional plan aimed at ending the three-year-old deadlock has been forwarded by Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Premier, but it is understood here that the latest message certainly deals with situation which has existed since the breakdown of the Anglo-Rhodesian talks in Salisbury, last November.

Political circles are inclined to discount a report which appeared in the Rhodesian press yesterday morning stating that the British letter was understood to ask the British Prime Minister, Harold

Wilson to clarify a statement he made in the House of Commons last week.

In this Wilson said several alternative proposals for a second constitutional safeguard against retrogressive or discriminatory legislation had been made by his government but had been turned down by Rhodesians.

This issue has received a thorough airing, and Wilson has insisted that the "Fearless" terms remain on the table, and that it is for Smith to pick them up if he wishes to do so.

Smith may now have sounded out Whitehall on the possibility of talks being resumed at official level on his plan for a settlement.

The plan has been worked out in great detail during the past few weeks, and the fact that Smith has now made a tentative move seems to indicate that he may consider the time is ripe for negotiations to be reopened.

## Two deep wells to supply water to N.M.S. Meena

The residents of Sayed Nour Mohammad Shah Meena will soon have enough drinking water when two of four deep wells are completed in three months time. The wells will provide 80 litres per second.

A source of the Ministry of Public Works in revealing this said that the present need of area is estimated at about 50 to 60 litres water per second. The extra water from the two deep wells will be used for the Bagrami Textile Project, the source added.

There will be two water reservoirs with a capacity of 1000 cubic metres water. One has been completed and other will be ready for use within three months.

Along with expansion of the area another two deep wells will be dug. Sayed Nour Mohammad Shah Meena is a new residential area located southeast of Kabul. There are 800 houses already built there and the amount of water which will be provided in near future will be enough for 1500 homes.

Now residents get their water from the tankers provided by the municipal corporation. The amount of water however does not meet the daily needs of the households.

## Crash probe team back from London

KABUL, Feb. 2, (Bakhtar).—The Afghan Air Authority delegation which went to London three weeks ago to take part in the investigation of the cause of the crash of Ariana Afghan jet liner there returned to Kabul yesterday.

A delegation member said preliminary investigation have been completed in cooperation with British experts in visits to the site of crash, interviews with crew and the injured, and listening to tapes of plane-airport communications.

So far it has not been established whether human error, technical defects or both caused the crash, he said.

Further investigation, and examination of the airplane parts as to whether there was anything wrong in them will take a longer time, he said.

Investigations are continuing and the British experts are constantly advising the Afghan Air Authority on their findings. After the studies and laboratory tests are completed the Afghan Air Authority will report the results to the public, he added.

## Farah begins work on new city project

FARAH, Feb. 2, (Bakhtar).—The plans for the new city of Farah have been completed by the Town Planning and Housing Department of the Public Works Ministry.

Construction began yesterday with Governor Sayed Kasem laying the foundation stone for the building to house the Agriculture and Irrigation Department.

Kasem said he hoped the residents of the city would cooperate with the municipal corporation in implementing the city's plans so that everything agree, with them.

## Friday snowfall block Charikar, Salang highway

CHARIKAR, Feb. 2, (Bakhtar).—Friday's heavy snowfall blocked the road from Charikar to the Salang and the Kabul-Ghazni road for nearly 24 hours. In Charikar the Charikar daily Parwan did not come out yesterday because the staff could not get to their offices.

And windstorms blowing snow in all directions brought traffic to a standstill for most of yesterday.

A large number of poles carrying electricity and telephone lines fell down. Many of the homes and shops remained dark Friday and Saturday night. Yesterday government offices in Charikar could not communicate with each other. The telephone lines between Charikar and Salang were also inoperative yesterday.

The commandant of the Public Works Ministry Work Corps, Brig. Khwazak, is now in Charikar overseeing the clearance operation of the Salang highway. The road is still closed and a number of trucks which started late Friday had to come back to Charikar.





## THE KABUL TIMES

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### Food For Thought

Design on the passing world to  
turn thine eyes, And pause a while  
from learning to be wise.

Samuel Johnson

### Family planning

The 31 nations participating in the family planning meeting currently in progress in Pakistan are anxiously awaiting the results of conference. Since experts from the specialised agencies of the United Nations and international organisations devoted to family planning are also participating, the forum will certainly come out with new guidelines in the application of family planning methods and ways to popularise them in the developing countries.

The forum, in its general review of the progress of work in family planning in developing countries and the role played by the organisations concerned, is evaluating the achievements of some of the developing countries. Results obtained from this evaluation could serve as practical guidelines in those developing countries that have just launched family planning programmes.

Since the rate of population growth in most of the developing countries is high, it would be probably a good thing to recommend more urgent and stronger measures for the implementation of family planning. As family planning is the concern of the developing countries in each region of the world, the conference would do well to agree on the forming of a United Nations regional office for family planning in our area.

Distance is an obstacle to the speedy success in family planning. Neither the United Nations nor its specialised agencies and the international organisations concerned can pin their hopes in truly assisting developing nations from their headquarters in Europe and North America.

The prime requirement for the successful implementation of family planning is the existence of trained personnel. Afghanistan, which has taken a marginal interest in family planning in recent years, is in need of more trained personnel in the field. Social customs demand more training when it concerns tourists.

aligned women in the field, and for this we are in need of international agencies and centres to give real, expanded and large scale aid as soon as they can.

In the meantime, the developing countries themselves ought to adopt clear cut policies in respect to family planning. Once it is decided to institute such a programme adequate attention should be paid to all aspects of applying it.

One important problem that has to be tackled first before other efforts can yield results is that of preparing the masses to agree to the need for family planning. Large families are still considered a blessing in some of the developing countries and the inability of parents to give their offspring proper education hasn't convinced traditional minded parents that family planning is an urgent requirement of the time.

We are happy to note that the Ministry of Public Health is planning to popularise family planning. The sources that are ready to help Afghanistan are varied and many. It is up to us to prepare the ground work to receive aid and to properly follow the guidelines that have been gathered from the experiences of other developing countries.

We think that the Ministry of Public Health should make family planning projects a part of the work of the Rural Development Department. City dwellers seem to have acquainted themselves with the methods of family planning. To start with, the ministry should open one family planning clinic in each of the 57 rural development projects. Since there are already doctors and nurses attached to rural development projects, until we get enough trained personnel, the clinics could be run by these doctors and nurses.

## HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

Yesterday's *Amis* carried an interview with the Afghan ambassador in Japan, Dr. Abdul Hakim Tabibi, who is now in Kabul in connection with the projected state visit to Japan by their Majesties the King and the Queen.

Dr. Tabibi, according to the interview, firmly believes that there is every possibility for the further expansion of trade and cultural ties between Afghanistan and Japan.

To this end Dr. Tabibi favours the immediate opening of a branch of Tejaraty Bank in Tokyo. Such a step in addition to providing a link between trading organisations in the two countries will also brighten the prospects of starting trade with other Pacific countries.

The ambassador thinks there is a potentially lucrative market in most Pacific countries for Afghan exports. In Japan, Dr. Tabibi thinks Afghan Karakul can find a ready market of about one million pelts annually. The same is true of our dried fruit, postuchas, (sheep skin jackets), etc.

The ambassador revealed that Afghanistan will take part in Expo 70 to be held in Japan. He said when the Japanese decide to do a job they aspire to do it as best as any one can. He cited as an example, the Olympic games which were held during in 1964 in that country. A complete new city was built for this purpose. It is important for Afghanistan to participate in Expo 70 since it will be a great trading fare with many countries, taking part.

He expressed certainty that the projected visit of His Majesty the King to Japan will constitute a great step towards the further strengthening of friendly ties between Afghanistan and Japan. Their Majesties will be the first royal couple to be received at the new \$30 million palace which is considered one of the modern marvels of architecture.

The ambassador also revealed that Japan was interested in inviting a buzkashi team from Afghanistan.

The same issue of the paper carried an editorial urging some of the hotel managers who tend to overcharge customers not to do so in the future. This is especially im-

portant when it concerns tourists.

A tourist no matter how rich or poor he may be cannot remain disinterested or careless about how his money is spent. Through visiting various countries, they develop a sense of comparison.

They compare prices and values. As soon as they feel that they are being overcharged in rents or for the services they get they develop a grudge against the host country

which can in the long run prove harmful to the tourist industry.

By writing in newspapers and talking about their experiences in different countries they can influence the flow of tourists one way or the other. The editorial also called on the proper authorities to take measures to control rents and prices so that overcharging tourists becomes difficult.



The Hanoi daily *Quan Doi Nhan Dan* (people's army daily) Friday criticised President Nixon's first press conference as an attempt to "fool public opinion" and make Americans believe he is seeking an early end to the war.

The daily, quoted by the North Vietnamese news agency, was referring to Nixon's press statement that his four "new" points in Vietnam policy are a "new" team in Paris, a "new" negotiations and "new" tactics.

The North Vietnam army paper said "there was nothing new about Nixon's points which were a repetition of Johnson's favourite themes".

The Vietnam war has so far cost the U.S. more than \$110 million caused senseless death or injuries to tens of thousands of young Americans, the paper said.

The U.S. is rent with division and ending this war quickly is an urgent demand of the American and world public opinion.

"All that Nixon had proposed at the Paris conference was restoration of the DMZ and gradual withdrawal on guaranteed basis, the paper said. "This, however, had been a favourite theme of Lyndon Johnson which the Vietnamese people have categorically rejected."

There was only one way out for the U.S., the paper pointed out, and that was to "respect the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people, stop all encroachment upon North Vietnam's sovereignty and security, end the aggression, withdraw all U.S. and satellite tr-

oops and let the South Vietnamese settle their own affairs".

Commenting on the situation in Pakistan, the *Guardian* writes Friday in an editorial that "the combined opposition forces which confront President Ayub Khan's ten-year-old regime in Pakistan seem to have made a breakthrough at last."

"The president's reported willingness to meet them for negotiations is one measure of the significance of the present crisis. This has been smouldering for the past four months, since the assassination attempt in Peshawar...

...six of the opposition parties have now formed a tentative alliance. Whether they will try to use their new leverage to oust Ayub altogether or merely extract from him a return to democratic forms—a federal parliamentary system, free press, the release of political prisoners and so on—is still unclear. His willingness to meet them at least suggests that he is not going to brazen out the present crisis entirely through force and mass arrests. This would be a real and welcome shift of policy."

In the long run, what Pakistan needs is political realignment of forces which might transcend regional and religious issues, the *Guardian* concluded.

An official proposal to set aside certain areas of Johannesburg for occupation by the Chinese community in Johannesburg has been rejected by the city council, the *Johannesburg Star* reported yesterday.

The paper said this meant that apartheid will not affect the 500 Chinese families living in Johannesburg.

### Nuclear weapons

## U.S. develops new weapon system

U.S. government nuclear weapons disclosed Friday they have developed some new and secret non-nuclear components for their already fearsome nuclear bombs and multiple-warhead missiles.

And they hinted they may already have tested them in the continuing quest to improve the enhance America's nuclear defence arsenal—a key part of which is designed most immediately for defence against China.

In the same report, the AEC made a new oblique reference to a conclusion voiced in 1966 by the joint Senate-House atomic committee that China could be capable of launching a hydrogen-missile attack on the United States before the mid-1970s, conceivably as early as 1970-1971.

The direct reference came when the AEC disclosed for the first time that it has set "late" 1971 as the target date for full-speed production in its previously-announced programme for providing "new capability and increased capacity" for producing nuclear intercontinental ballistic missiles.

A key objective in this expansion programme—for which Congress was recently asked for additional funds by the Johnson administration—is sharply geared-up production of Spartan and Sprint missiles for the sentinel system.

The latter is the so-called "thin" antiballistic missile system deemed by the Pentagon to be sufficient to come with any early threat from China.

The AEC's reference to the development of new, non-nuclear components for possible use in various launching in 1969. And this latest

kinds of nuclear weapons.

Following is the statement in a section of the report dealing with weapons developments during the past year, including underground testing:

"Effort in the development of both weapons and systems was directed toward the exploitation of technological advances, the use of new materials and processes, and new fabrication techniques".

Pressed by a newsmen for amplification on the "new materials and processes", the AEC would say only that they involved only non-nuclear things—that is, they do not mean that the AEC has developed some new form of nuclear explosive.

But the commission refused to describe the new components, or their designed function. The AEC said, through a spokesman that "to elaborate would mean going into (secretary) classification" with regard to weapons.

Conceivably, the newly-developed components could be designed, for one thing, to improve the capabilities of America's strategic missile warheads to penetrate enemy defences—by further decreasing their vulnerability to nuclear rays, ballistic heat effects generated by antiballistic missiles.

They might even include some new form of decoy device to confuse an enemy's radar defences.

On other subjects in its wide-ranging account, the AEC reported:

A fifth pair of American spy-satellites aimed at detecting sneak nuclear tests in the atmosphere and on outer space is being readied for launching in 1969. And this latest

duo "will contain major advances in most areas of instrumentation" compared with the four pairs already in orbit.

2. In the nuclear power field, the United States now has 3 atomic power plants in operation—44 more are being built—and still another 34 are in the advanced planning stage, with reactors already ordered for them.

All these together will be generating almost 73 billion watts of electricity by 1976—enough for the needs of some 58.4 million Americans.

3. During the past year, a record amount of uranium ore exploration was accomplished. Also, "as a result of exploration efforts over recent years, known ore reserves were increased by the largest amount during any year since 1959."

4. Conceptual design studies were completed on several ideas for tiny atomic-powered "implantable engines" that could be inserts in the human body to assist or replace the functions of a diseased or damaged heart.

"All of the concepts studied", said the AEC "appear feasible—that is, they can be developed within the limits of currently available technology."

5. Work is being pushed to develop higher-speed, nuclear-powered submarines and also submarine-type reactors that operate longer, without refueling, than present models. But the AEC pointed out that even the nuclear fuel cores presently being installed "will last for more than 10 years of normal operation and propel the ship for approximately 400,000 miles" (AP)

### USSR-U.S. ties

## Moscow studies 'Agenda for the Nation'

Soviet experts on U.S. affairs are displaying keen interest in a set of policy recommendations offered to President Nixon and the new Congress in a report published in Washington by the Brookings Institution, a non-partisan research organisation.

The 620-page report titled "Agenda for the Nation," contains papers by 18 prominent academic specialists on subjects ranging from "Raising the Incomes of the Poor" and "Crime and Law Enforcement" to Relations With the Soviet Union" and "The United States and Low Income Countries."

One of the contributions on the central issues of American foreign policy is by Henry A. Kissinger, Harvard University professor who has been appointed adviser on national security affairs by Nixon.

The project, launched last spring with a grant from the Ford Foundation, was intended to confront the new national administration with urgent issues it will face.

The volume was the subject of a detailed book review in *Izvestia*, the government newspaper, by Yuri Arbatov, director of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton.

the year-old institute on the United States of the Academy of Sciences.

Arbatov's review is considered a revealing document in two respects. First it reflects Soviet hopes for the kind of policies the Nixon administration might adopt and, second, it reveals indirectly Kremlin's own preoccupations.

Arbatov who is close to Soviet policy makers, on his first visit to the United States recently. He was a member of a delegation to the so-called Dartmouth meetings, an informal discussion forum of prominent Americans and Russians on East-West issues.

The *Izvestia* review, in contrast to its full treatment of American domestic issues, mentions only two of the report papers on foreign policy—the one by Kissinger and one on "Military Strategy, Military Forces and Arms Control," by Carl Kaysen, director of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton.

Discussing Kissinger's assessment of American national interest, Arbatov says:

"He comes to the conclusion that the United States is no longer in a position to impose its

global programs and must recognize realities, that it plans to achieve superiority of force, but must strive to solve international problems through negotiations, rejecting any grandiose concepts of its mission in the world."

In the military sphere Arbatov was interested in Kaysen's proposals for a reduction of the role of military force in U.S. foreign policy and corresponding reductions in the scale of the military establishment.

This juxtaposition of American domestic problems with recommendations for military and foreign cutbacks is believed to reflect the basic concerns of the Soviet leadership.

Summing up Soviet expectations, Arbatov concludes by saying:

"A new administration always brings something new to the American nation—either new possibilities of new perils. 'Agenda for the Nation,' written by American specialists, once again shows that the present period is too crucial to allow much room for errors and wrong decisions, which are sometimes easier to make than the right ones."

(Herald Tribune)

### Forced quietness

## Spain under three months emergency state

Spain is today a subdued nation, under a national state of emergency for three months, its press gagged by stringent government censorship, and its police armed with sweeping powers.

The country appears quiet. Arrests have so far been on a relatively small scale. But underneath, the calm surface, Spaniards are asking themselves, and others, why it happened, and what the immediate future holds.

The official answer is that the emergency was decreed to stamp out student riots. Spain's rebel students have been shouting for the downfall of General Franco's regime over the past two years, burning, trampling, and spitting on pictures of General Franco, stoning police, and singing revolutionary songs.

For months it had been understood that some of the more right-wing Spanish army officers were disgruntled and believed that the regime was getting soft and letting things go. There were reports of a deterioration in the health of 76-year-old General Franco, and speculation was mounting that he soon intended to name young Prince Juan Carlos of Bourbon as his successor.

What role did these real or supposed factors play in the unexpected decision to decree a national state of emergency?

"There was no pressure from the army," General Franco is the-

ir supreme commander and represents them, and all members of the government were agreed on the need to clean up the university because, he said, "we cannot tolerate in Spain what happened in France last May."

However, the Information Minister Manuel Fraya Iribarne told to Reuters: "I would not deny that if there had been more in-sults to the Spanish flag like those at Barcelona university, then it might have been possible that young officers would have taken things into their own hands."

The government wanted to avoid any recourse to arms or violence. It was a preventive measure.

Lieutenant-General Alfonso Perez Vineta, tough officer commanding the Barcelona military region, is known to have been highly indignant over incident at Barcelona University when rebel students tore down the Spanish flag, and hauled up red flags with the hammer and sickle.

They also sacked the rector's office, tossed a bust of General Franco out of the window, and tried to throw the rector as well.

General Perez Vineta, a bull-necked figure wearing dark glasses, presided at a big pro-Franco patriotic rally in Barcelona only two days after the emergency had been declared.

As for General Franco's health, he looked fit enough when he re-

ceived the executive committee of Spain's foreign correspondents' association in an annual audience this week. His handshake was firm, he stood erect, his eyes seemed alert, and he had a nice sun-tan.

General Franco still goes hunting and reports that he recently received medical advice not to attend meetings lasting more than one hour have been officially denied. However, he is clearly feeling the weight of his years.

Prince Juan Carlos, in a press interview early this month, indicated he was ready to accept the crown over the head of his father, the pretender, Don Juan of Bourbon. This caused consternation among monarchists, and speculation mounted that General Franco would soon name the prince as his successor.

But according to Fraga, the state of emergency had nothing to do with the succession problem.

General Franco would never hand over his powers in a time of trouble, and certainly not now," he said.

So the succession issue remains open. Before General Franco decides who is to be his successor, it appears more likely that he will appoint a prime minister and thus separate his own powers as chief of state and head of government, as foreseen in constitutional reforms as long as 1966.

(REUTERS)

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## Afghan artist associates Nippon with art, not industry

By A Staff Writer

"To me Nippon carries a meaning which is closer to 'arts' than industry," Mrs. Najiba Tabibi, the wife of the Afghan ambassador in Tokyo, says about Japan, the land of the rising sun.

"Just think of a rising sun. In every stage of its rise, nature becomes more and more beautiful. The same is true of Japan. As an artist at heart I care more for its esthetic values, for its natural beauties, for Mount Fuji, for flower arrangement and for the delicacy and feeling of paintings by Japanese artists than for its industry," Mrs. Tabibi said.

From the interest she has taken in Japanese life and culture, she means what she says.

Since her arrival in Tokyo about one and a half years ago, she has hired a Japanese artist to teach her Japanese painting. She meets her instructor twice a week and shows her work to him. "Sometimes he likes my work, sometimes he doesn't," she says sadly. "An artist prefers to see her work liked and appreciated, not rejected. But in this case, it is a special relationship, the relations between a student and teacher. I appreciate his criticism, and try to improve my Japanese art work."

Mrs. Tabibi believes that Japanese arts and painting is "like porcelain: it is tender like a child's heart. With a slight mist-

ake it breaks. It becomes ugly and unwanted, and changes its character from a Japanese art work to a Picasso item.

"I hate this to happen. It is originality in Japanese landscapes that I love, and if this originality, by any stroke of my brush is lost, I prefer to destroy it than keep it," she says.

That is what she has done. She has destroyed many of her art works to be able to draw new and better ones to suit her own personal taste.

She has been painting for some years. But she thinks that a good painter who is not accustomed to the Japanese style of painting can not become a good Japanese painter in a short time.

When I asked her, during an interview in Tokyo recently, how long it would take her before she feel confident that her Japanese paintings were really up to her own standards she smiled but did not give a specific time. "It is not like completing a degree in a university. Art is a matter of taste. It recognises no boundaries of time," she said.

However, her paintings are fairly popular among the wives of the foreign diplomats in Tokyo. The wives of the diplomatic corps meet often, and discuss their

paintings and arts work over a cup of tea.

Mrs. Tabibi is also very fond of flower arrangements. She takes lessons in flower arrangements, and the first thing a new comer in her house notices is the flower pots with lovely arrangements.

"When I was in Kabul I used to attend the occasional flower arrangement ceremonies which I enjoyed tremendously. I was lucky enough to be able to pursue my interest in flower arrangement in Tokyo," she says.

Mrs. Tabibi is also fond of Japanese music, especially Japanese pop songs. She has learned more Japanese in one and a half years in Tokyo than she had English in the same period of time when she was in New York.

"Admittedly it is a difficult language. But it is an artistic language. Every Japanese character is a work of art. I learn it with great interest."

Even her three children, Abdullah, 13, Dina nine and Najib, two years old, speak Japanese. Najib has already mixed Dari and Japanese.



The Japanese countryside as viewed by Mrs. Tabibi

## Cultural exchanges between Australia, Asia expand

Although Australia has achieved a civilisation which is almost completely European and American, it shares with most countries of Asia the gradual rise to self-government and independence of thought.

Because of the solidity of its Western institutions Australia has been enabled to assess more comprehensively its situation in the East and to see that the cultures of its Asian neighbours have to offer it at the least novelty, at the most a new world whose growth from cultural and artistic reciprocity is unpredictable.

After the Australian Ballet's three-month tour early in 1968 through Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, Bangkok, Manila, Phnom Penh, Hong Kong, Taipei, Seoul, four cities of Japan, its co-artistic director Sir Robert Helpmann wrote in the magazine Hemisphere:

"One conviction I have formed is that the direction of Australian cultural inspiration in the future must take account of our proximity to Asia. Australian ballet can benefit from this proximity. For example, it can draw on the legends of Asia in much the same way as Britain's Royal Ballet has borrowed from the legends of France, Germany and Spain. Our physical closeness to Asia will ensure, in time, that our thought and feeling will become more akin to that of Asia than to the thought and feeling of Europe."

World politics and the re-orientation of trade since World War II have intensified the change in Australian thought. It is not that Australians are merely following their political and financial interest. They have been released rather than driven into a new world. Largely it has been a matter of meeting their neighbours for the first time.

Australians notice that many of the thousands of Asian students who have been attending their high schools

and universities since World War II tend to pass high, sometimes at the top of their classes. On the national days of other countries Australians see strange and beautiful customs and ceremonial robes, dances and songs. At parties they are acquiring new tastes in the noble and universal art of cookery.

Most universities offer Australian students courses in Asian languages, history and civilisation, and the presence of Asian students on the campuses is no small aid and encouragement to young Australians taking these courses.

There is a present and growing exchange between Australia and its Asian neighbours—and the interest in the first place has been Australian.

Performances like those of the Bayanihan Dancers and the Barangay Dancers of the Philippines and of the Kalakshetra of Madras have had immense success at earlier Adelaide Festivals. At the Adelaide Festival of 1964 the Bayanihan Dancers had the second-largest attendance of all that festival's shows—more than 19,000 people saw them in a few weeks.

Late in 1966 Australia returned these visits with a tour of the puppet show THE TINTOOKIES to Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma, Malaysia, Singapore, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, the Philippines and Indonesia. The reception in these places of the essentially Australian marionettes encouraged the Australian Government to sponsor the 1968 Australian Ballet tour, and from this tour resulted not only Sir Robert Helpmann's convictions about Asia and Australia but also the choreography for his new ballet SUN MUSIC, to music by the Australian composer Peter Sculthorpe, who was trained in Europe but considers that Asian music has more to teach and to follow than the European music of today.

Here the scene becomes complicated as, no doubt, a merging of cultures should. While Sculthorpe is writing music inspired by Asian music and Asian instruments and impressing his student in the University of Sydney with his enthusiasm, the Australian Elizabethan Opera Company has engaged the Japanese producer-director Yoshie Fujiwara and the Japanese soprano Michika Sunahara for its 1969 production of the Italian opera MADAME BUTTERFLY. The Australian Broadcasting Commission has brought the Chinese soprano Ella Kiang, who sang lead in their television film of MADAM BUTTERFLY in 1966, to star in a 1968 television production of the French opera LA VOIX HUMAINE by Foulenc, and the Japanese stage-designer Yoshie Tosa has come to prominence in Sydney with his designs for the 1968 production of Shakespeare's KING LEAR by the Australian National Institute of Dramatic Art.

One of the 32 international celebrities touring Australia in 1969 will be the Chinese woman conductor Helen Quach, who came to Australia with her family from Saigon at the age of 10, studied at the New South Wales Conservatorium of Music, was trained in the apprentice-conductors class of the then director of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Nicolai Malko, and after further studies in Europe and America made tours as guest conductor in America, Europe and Asia.

And now, in the early months of 1969, the Sydney String Quartette is giving recitals in Bombay, Bangkok and Hong Kong besides London, the USSR, Czechoslovakia and South Africa, and the Adelaide Wind Quartette in Bombay, Bangkok, the United States.

These two tours are Australia's first exchange for such well-known European chamber groups as the Budapest String Quartette which, from the 1930s, used to work its

way down through Asia and Indonesia to large audiences in Australian cities.

Parallel with these exchanges in music and dance go the more practical in arts, underwritten by trade—the increased sales in Australia of Indian bric-a-brac, of Philippines carved wooden dishes and bamboo and cane furniture, of Indonesian carvings and fabrics and of Malaysian and Thai fabrics. These importations, many of them made possible by the Australian Government's tariff concessions to Asian cottage industries, are creating new tastes in the Australian way of life and to that extent modifying it.

A different kind of Asian-Australian cooperation has been sought in the field of painting. Several Australian art exhibitions have toured

Asia: an exhibition of recent Australian paintings was well received in India and Pakistan in 1967-68, but perhaps no more practical suggestion could have been made than that of the conservation of the Art Gallery of New South Wales, W. Boustead, for the establishment of a Pacific and Asian association of art conservationists to pool methods of preservation and restoration peculiar to Asian countries.

With the opening of the library on the shore of Lake Burley Griffin in August of 1968 these collections were brought out from their seclusion in temporary premises, and put in their places in a special section 170,000 volumes on Asia; 47,000 Chinese, 31,000 Japanese and 92,000 other volumes.

## CHILDREN'S THEATRES

By Konstantin Shakh-zizov

The International Association For Children's and Youth Theatres was founded in London in 1964, with the aim of exchanging information and establishing contact between theatres. It now has 23 member countries.

Many children's theatres include foreign classics in their repertoire. Soviet children's plays, for example, are frequently performed in Japan, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Hungary and Poland. Plays by such writers as S. Marshak, Y. Shwarz, M. Svetlov, V. Korostylev, S. Mikhalkov, Victor Rozov, A. Brushtein, V. Lyubimov, T. Gabbe and A. Khmchik.

Following the recent, highly successful tour of the Central Children's Theatre in West Germany, Mikhalikov's fine comedy "Sonnerero" was put on at children's theatres in Munich and Nuremberg. Svetlov's "Twenty Years Later" is having a successful run at the Druzhba Theatre in Berlin.

Productions of the Central Children's Theatre have included Burger's "La Farola" about the Cuban revolution (first performed at the Berlin Druzhba Theatre), the Czechoslovak plays "The Piper of Strakonice" by Tyl and "The Treacle-Cake House" by Stehlik, "Nought for Behaviour" by the Rumanian play-wrights

Stoenescu and Sava, and the Polish plays "School Leavers" by Skavronski, "Professor Blot" by Brzechwa and "King Macius I" by Korczak. An excellent adaptation of James Barrie's classic "Peter Pan" and "Sonny and Karlsson Who Lives on the Roof" by the Swedish authoress A. Lindgren recently had their premieres.

The Association has set up a special translation committee, to which we forward suggestions for the translation of Soviet plays. We are also proposing to publish Russian translations of well-known plays in other languages.

In addition, the International Association publishes a special journal in Paris called "Revue" with articles about children's theatres and plays. There is a Czech bulletin which also publishes information about the activities of children's theatres all over the world. Needless to say, these publications are extremely useful to us in our work.

To inform people about the work of Soviet children's theatres the well-known Soviet producer Natalia Satz went on a lecture tour of East Germany, and I did a tour of England.

Between March 1, and 10, 1968 (Continued on page 4)



A view of Mount Fuji

## Fascinated by Kyogen

By Donn Kenny

The question people usually ask first is, "Where do you come from?" After I reply, "The States", and they ask for the name of my "home town", I am rather at a loss. I was born in Manhattan, Kans., went to grade school in various small towns throughout the rolling hills of Nebraska, junior high school in the broad, flat windy expanses of Oklahoma, and high school on the edge of both the mountains and the desert in Sheridan, Wyoming.

Then when I went back to Oklahoma to attend Phillips University, my parents moved to Idaho. All in all I never actually lived in any one town in the states for more than four years. My parents now live in San Carlos, Calif.—a town which I have never visited.

In November 1959, I was sent to Japan as a junior officer in the U.S. Navy. During my three years of service, I spent my free time studying the Japanese language and seeing as many performances as possible of Japanese classical theatre. As a result, I fell in love with Tokyo, the Japanese people, and Japanese theatre. The form of theatre I found most appealing was the classical comedy vignettes called Kyogen which appear between the heavier, more serious Noh dramas.

To put an actual date on the beginning of my stage experience and interest in theatre of all kinds is almost impossible. At the age of four I began taking piano lessons and was playing piano and organ for church services by the time I was in junior high school.

I participated in school dramatic activities throughout my years of formal education. During junior high I began working in

the evenings at movie theatres. During my first year in high school, I decided on a career as an opera singer, trained for six years, and finally gave it up when I realised the financial backing necessary for success.

Soon after coming to Japan,

I began to study Japanese classical dance, and later began to take lessons in Kyogen from the well-known actor Mansaku Nomura. Since that time Kyogen has become the centre of my studies.

At present I am working on a master's degree in drama as a (Continued on page 4)



Donn Kenny a young American captivated by Japanese classical arts, plays the role of "ahimbochi" (apprentice priest at Buddhist temple) with Takako Suzuki in a Kyogen (Noh Comedy) performance.



In the workshop of the Australian marionette company THE TINTOOKIES the Kangaroo and Koala marionettes are receiving the attention of the manipulator Penny Hall. THE TINTOOKIES tour of Asia from Pakistan to Japan in 1966-67 was so well received as to encourage the Australian Government to sponsor the Asian tour of The Australian Ballet in 1968.



## Kyogen

(Continued from page 3)

regular student of the graduate school of Waseda University.

I recently wrote my first book on Kyogen, "A Guide to Kyogen" which was published by Hinoki Shoten. I have collaborated on translations into Japanese "West Side Story" and Jean Georges Noverre's "Lettres Sur La Danse et Les Ballets."

I have recently been commissioned by John Weatherhill, Inc. to adapt and translate a series of eight volumes on Japanese classical arts, including Kabuki, Noh, Butoh, Chonro, Ikebana, Budo, Gagaku, and Maori. I have plans in Kyogen, some translations of Japanese avant garde theatre, and a book of interviews with Japanese movie directors.

## Airlines

### MONDAY Ariana Afghan Airlines: DEPARTURES

| FLIGHT TIME                |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Kabul-Tashkent             | FG-604 0900 |
| Kabul-Mazar                | FG-115 1130 |
| Kabul-Kandahar             | FG-104 1400 |
| ARRIVALS                   |             |
| Kandahar-Kabul             | FG-401 1100 |
| Mazar Kabul                | FG-116 1500 |
| Tashkent Kabul             | FG-605 1545 |
| ARRIVAL                    |             |
| Chaghcharan, Bamian, Kabul | BL-02 1250  |
| PIA:                       |             |
| DEPARTURE                  |             |
| Kabul, Peshawar            | PK-607 1150 |
| ARRIVAL                    |             |
| Peshawar, Kabul            | PK-606 1050 |
| TMA                        |             |
|                            | TL-203 1200 |
| ARRIVAL                    |             |
| Beirut, Kabul              |             |

## Pharmacies

### OPEN TONIGHT:

#### OPIN TONIGHT:

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Mehsen, Jade Nader Pashtoon  
Najeeb, Pamir Cinema  
Faizi, Bince Hesar  
Barikut, Dahmazang  
Rona, Malik Asghar  
Asri, Jade Nader Pashtoon  
Wahidi, Share Nau  
Amiri, Shahrara  
Akshun, Zadah, Darulaman  
Shakeri, see Jade Maiwand  
Aqbal, Jade Maiwand  
Asri Apuzhmay, Jade Maiwand  
Karte Char and Share Nau  
General Medical Depot branch  
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Airport -21283-20872  
Fire Department 13  
Telephone repair 29  
Main post office 24981

## Weather

Skies in the northern, northeastern, northwestern, western and central regions will be cloudy and other parts of the country clear. Yesterday the warmest areas were Laghman, Jalalabad and Paktia with a high of 16 C, 61 F. The coldest area was Shahrak with a low of -31 C, -23 F with chance of rain and snow. Yesterday Kunduz, Ghazni, Fariab, Lal, Gardez, Herat, Bamian and North Salang had rain and snow. Today's temperature in Kabul at 10:30 a.m. was -7 C, 19.5 F with clear skies. Wind speed was recorded in Kabul at 5 to 10 knots.

| Yesterday's temperatures: |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Kabul                     | 2 C -8 C    |
|                           | 36 F 17 F   |
| Mazare Sharif             | -1 C -9 C   |
|                           | 30 F -17 F  |
| Herat                     | 6 C -7 C    |
|                           | 43 F 19.5 F |
| Kandahar                  | 7 C 3 C     |
|                           | 41 F 37 F   |
| Ghazni                    | 1 C -11 C   |
|                           | 34 F 12 F   |
| Fariab                    | 4 C -16 C   |
|                           | 35 F 3 F    |
| North Salang              | 6 C -11 C   |
|                           | 21 F 7 F    |



### ARIANA CINEMA:

At 2, 4, 7 and 9 p.m. American color-copied film dubbed in Farsi: **THE TAMING OF THE SHREW** with Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, Sunday and Monday at 7:00 p.m. in English.

### PARK CINEMA:

At 2, 4, 7 and 9 p.m. American color film dubbed in Farsi: **HELICOPTER SPIES** with Robert Vaughn and David Nollan, Saturday at 7 p.m. in English.

## World News In Brief

JAKARTA, Feb. 2, (DPA).—Indonesia will join other nonaligned countries scheduled to meet in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa in April or May to prepare another summit conference. Indonesian Foreign Minister Adam Malik disclosed Friday.

SINGAPORE, Feb. 2, (Reuter).—The Soviet Union and Singapore have signed an agreement granting the Soviet airline Aeroflot and Malaysia-Singapore Airlines (MSA) reciprocal traffic rights, a Singapore government spokesman said yesterday.

LISBON, Feb. 2, (AFP).—Portuguese Defence Minister General Vianna Rebeto left here today for an inspection tour of Mozambique and also a visit to South Africa.

General Rebeto said that he would be in South Africa for three days, and that he visited returned one made by the South African Defence Minister P.W. Botha.

ZURICH, Feb. 2, (AP).—A plastic bomb planted outside local government offices rocked the centre of Switzerland's largest city during the night, causing \$25,000 worth of damage.

No one was injured by the blast, which shattered windows of houses and stores in the vicinity and badly damaged the offices. A note signed "group of anarchists" was found at the scene.

TOKYO, Feb. 2, (Tass).—The population of Tokyo grew by 153,067 in 1968. This brings the total population of the Japanese capital up to 11,353,724, according to the board of the Tokyo municipal council.

KATHMANDU, Feb. 2, (Reuter).—Princess Margrethe, 28-year-old heir to the Danish throne, arrived here by air Saturday with her husband, Prince Hendrik, at the start of a week's visit.

ALGIERS, Feb. 2, (AFP).—Algeria has decided to help the Al-Fatah Palestinian resistance movement in every way, an Algerian political leader said yesterday.

Kaid Ahmad, an official of Algeria's only political party, handed a cheque equivalent to several million French francs to Yasser Arafat, head of Al-Fatah here, and said, "the Algerian people and its government consider as a holy duty to help a people which, for 20 years, has led the life of a refugees."

DAMASCUS, Feb. 2, (AP).—The state-owned French firm Erap has made fresh oil discoveries in southern Iraq, Oil Minister Rashid Rifai was quoted as announcing Saturday.

The Egyptian Middle East news agency quoted Rifai as saying in Baghdad that Erap's latest discovery was made in Seibah, 80 km south of Basra.

## 7 children freeze to death in flooding S. Iran

TEHRAN, Feb. 2, (AP).—Seven children froze to death in Masji Soleiman, center of the flood-stricken region of Khuzistan in south Iran, after ten centimeters of snow fell over the oil-rich region Friday night.

Last week floods caused more than \$10 million damage to the region and left 15,000 people homeless. According to official figures 20 persons were drowned.

Government authorities reported flood victims were temporarily sheltered in two camps set up in Ahwaz and Khorramshahr.

Poisonous snakes, heading for high ground in towns, forced officials to close down a girls' school in Ahwaz, Tehran papers reported.

Authorities believe that the ten day flood is now under control.

## Demirel, defends Turkey's NATO membership

ANKARA, Feb. 2, (DPA).—Turkish Premier Suleyman Demirel Saturday stressed the irrevocability of Turkey's independence by membership in the NATO and other defence alliances.

Addressing the senate during its nightly debate on the 1969 defence budget, Demirel, supported by Defence Minister Ahmet Topaloglu, said it was unthinkable for any Turkish government to request military assistance from abroad to quell domestic troubles.

Turkey would stay in the NATO alliance as long as this was required by her own interests, Demirel said.

Both Demirel and Topaloglu defended Ankara's past policy against criticism by senators of the former Union group, which played a key role in the 1960 military coup against the Bayar-Merkez regime.

## Police notice

All resident foreigners are kindly requested not to hire servants, cooks, gardeners etc. in their offices and homes until they acquire police permission.

Employers are also urged to keep with them the identification card, the employee's home and present address, and to have the employees introduced to them by someone who will guarantee to find the employee in case he leaves without permission or prior notice.

This notice had been given once before but during the year the police have had difficult experiences because some individuals have not paid heed to the request.

## Afghan week in review:

## Indo-Afghan ag. cooperation

By A Staff Writer

The Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Eng. Mohammad Akbar Reza returned home this week following a two week visit to India. This was a reply visit by Reza to the visit by Indian Irrigation and Electric Power Minister C.K. Rau to Afghanistan last year.

The primary objective in exchange of visits between the two ministers has been, as it is understood from news despatches, to establish closer cooperation between the two nations in the field of agriculture and power development.

India, a more advanced nation among the development countries, has acquired worthwhile experience in irrigation, agricultural and electrical power generating and distribution.

In effect India has now agriculture oriented industries. The establishment of the same type of concerns is felt necessary in this country. Exchanges of views, and technical data, and technical cooperation between Afghanistan and India is thus a new desirable trend.

On his return to Kabul Eng. Reza said India is interested to

cooperate with Afghanistan in implementation of some of the development projects included in the country's Third Five Year Plan.

It was learned this week that the inauguration of the Share Nau telephone exchange station, which will add 3000 phones to the Kabul phone network, has been postponed for five months.

The reason for this is that the manpower has been concentrating on finishing the work involved on the Karte Char station, also a 3000 line station.

What ought to be mentioned here about city telephones is that in Afghanistan it is a very expensive undertaking, requiring large amounts of foreign currency expenditure for equipment and skilled foreign manpower for installation operation and maintenance. The returns on the investment are small, failing even to cover the expenditures.

The present trend is that every one likes a telephone in his home office or shop. For brisk business, and unhindered communication this is all well. But for the time

being, until the economy is healthier, it may prove more beneficial if plans for fancy telephone networks for various cities are shelved.

Instead more attention should be paid to public coin operated telephones. The Communications Ministry has already plans for installing telephone booths around the city of Kabul. This is a public convenience which should get top priority.

According to some sources in the Ministry of Public Works a single three minute unit calls inside the city will cost Af. 2. It may be well for the ministry to reconsider the proposed price because this is higher than a call costs the telephone subscribers.

Telephone fees at homes and offices is Af. 100 per month, and there is no extra charges if daily dialings do not exceed five. Five calls on public telephones will cost Af. 10 while it costs the individual subscriber less than Af. 4.

If the charges for public telephones are not low enough, they might also become a liability, like the private homes telephones, for the Ministry of Communications.



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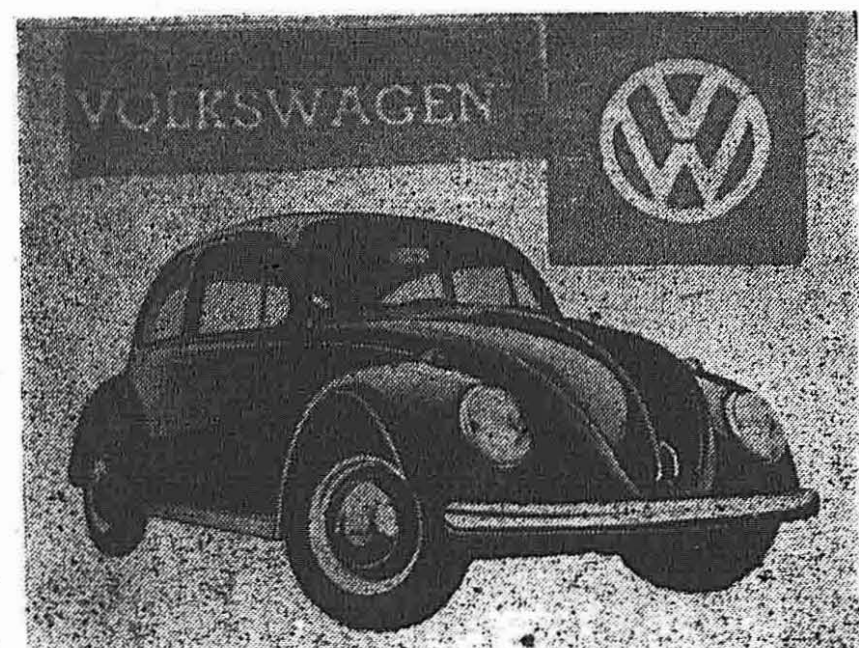
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